

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a cytokine receptor, <sup>which binds to AKL1SS and induces STAT activation</sup> wherein the complementary nucleotide sequence of said isolated nucleic acid molecule hybridizes, under stringent conditions, to SEQ ID NO: 7 or SEQ ID NO: 9, wherein said stringent conditions are defined as

hybridization at 65°C in 3.5xSSC, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% polyvinylpyrrolidone, 0.02% bovine serum albumin, 25mM NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (pH 7), 0.1% SDS, 2mM EDTA, and a final wash at room temperature with 2xSSC, followed by a wash at 0.1xSSC/0.2xSDS at a temperature as high as 65°C.

Claim 2 (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule encodes a protein, the amino acid sequence of which is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8 or SEQ ID NO: 10.

Claim 3 (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth at SEQ ID NO: 7 or SEQ ID NO: 9.

Claim 4 (Original) Expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, operably linked to a promoter.

Claim 5 (Original) Expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, operably linked to a promoter.

Claim 6 (Original) Expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 3, operably linked to a promoter.

Claim 7 (Original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

Claim 8 (Original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 2.

Claim 9 (Original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 3.

Claim 10 (Original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the expression vector of claim 4.

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<sup>11</sup>  
Claim ~~11~~. (Original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the expression vector of claim 5.

<sup>12</sup>  
Claim ~~12~~. (Original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the expression vector of claim 6.

Claims 13-23. (Canceled)

<sup>13</sup>  
Claim ~~24~~. (Original) A method for producing a cytokine receptor comprising transforming or transfecting a cell with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, culturing the thus transformed or transfected cell in culture medium to produce said cytokine receptor, and isolating it from said cell or culture medium.

<sup>14</sup>  
Claim ~~25~~. (Original) A method for producing a cytokine receptor, comprising transforming or transfecting a cell with the expression vector of claim 4, culturing the thus transformed or transfected cell in culture medium to produce said soluble cytokine receptor, and isolating it from said cell or culture medium.

Claims ~~26-28~~. (Canceled)

<sup>15</sup>  
Claim ~~29~~. (Currently Amended) An isolated oligonucleotide consisting of ~~anywhere from~~ 17 up to 100 contiguous nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7, or SEQ ID NO: 9.

Claims 30-37. (Canceled)

REMARKS